



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UPPER CUMBERLAND CAREER CENTER HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

*TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER
SPEAKS AT EVENT*

NASHVILLE – Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner James Neeley was the guest speaker at the Upper Cumberland Career Center Open House, Friday, October 24.

The Upper Cumberland Career Centers celebrated their third anniversary and introduced the "One-Stop" concept for customers. The Upper Cumberland Career Center Partners include Tennessee Labor & Workforce Development, Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency, Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Education, Job Corps, Workforce Investment Act staff, the Older Workers Program and Veterans Affairs. These partners provide services for customers under one roof, without the inconvenience of traveling all over town from one agency to another.

"In the past, employment efforts have been too scattered and have too often left out the employer's needs. The network of more than 100 Tennessee Career Centers across the state is changing that and will provide one central place to meet employment needs. We are proud the Cookeville office and partners have come together to make things easier for both employers and job seekers," said Commissioner Neeley.

The Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency is the administrative entity for the Upper Cumberland Career Centers. Phyllis R. Bennett, Executive Director said, "more than 71,000 residents of the Upper Cumberland region have been served by the centers in Clay, Dekalb, Fentress, Macon, Overton, Putnam, Smith and White counties since opening in September of 2000. Plans are in the works to bring Jackson County on line as a Career Center this year. These Career Centers not only connect people to jobs, but also connect people to services offered that they may not have otherwise been aware of. A primary focus of UCHRA has always been to operate an office in each county and now with the Tennessee Career Centers opened, it becomes much easier to provide these much needed services."

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The Career Center is open Monday through Friday, 8:00-4:30, and provides free use of computers, fax machines, and phones for job search. The center also provides job seekers with career workshops on résumé writing, interviewing skills and more. Employers may use the center to recruit qualified employees, utilize our staff for prescreening and testing of potential employees and hold job fairs. For more information on the Upper Cumberland Tennessee Career Center call (931) 520-0651.

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